

Message Text

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67

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 USSS-00

INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

ACDA-19 IO-15 MC-02 DRC-01 /136 W
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O P 132012Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 101

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USINT CAIRO

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 8042

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, IS

SUBJECT: ISRAEL SITUATION REPORT

1. RADIO NEWS AT 1:30 PM TODAY FOCUSED ON ISRAELI SUCCESSES IN SYRIA AND WENT INTO SOMEWHAT MORE DETAIL THAN IN PAST DAYS, NOTING IN PARTICULAR THAT MOST OF IRAQI UNITS ENGAGED BY IDF HAD BEEN DESTROYED WITH ITS REMNANTS IN RETREAT. MILITARY COMMENTATOR HAIM HERZOG IN MATTER-OF-FACT TONE TOLD HIS LISTENERS THAT WHAT WAS IMPORTANT WITH RESPECT TO ADVANCE IN SYRIA WAS NOT NUMBER OF KILOMETERS BUT TYPES AND NUMBER OF FORTIFICATIONS AND WEAPONS DESTROYED. HE STATED THAT IRAQI UNITS ENCOUNTERED BY ISRAELIS HAD FOR ALL PRACTICAL PURPOSES BEEN DESTROYED AND A LARGE NUMBER OF TANKS -- HE HAD HEARD
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FIGURE OF 80 MENTIONED--HAD BEEN CAPTURED. ON SINAI FRONT, HERZOG

SAID THAT IDF WAS CONTAINING AND PRESSING EGYPTIAN FORCES AND KEEPING THEM GUESSING ABOUT FUTURE ISRAELI INTENTIONS.

2. POPULAR MOOD SEEMS SOMEWHAT MORE RELAXED, JUDGING BY NEAR NORMAL AMOUNT OF SABBATH WALKING ALONG STREETS AND VISITING WITH RELATIVES AND FRIENDS. LAST NIGHT LARGER NUMBER OF SOLDIERS THAN USUAL WERE HITCHHIKING ON INTER-CITY HIGHWAYS FOR SHORT VISITS HOME. HOWEVER, WE HAVE HEARD THAT STORIES ARE STARTING TO CIRCULATE BY WORD OF MOUTH ONLY ABOUT ATRHNITIESMBKMUTILATIONS AND GANG RAPES) SAID TO HAVE BEEN PERPETRATED BY SYRIAN TROOPS ON IDF MALE AND FEMALE PERSONNEL WHO FELL TEMPORARILY INTO SYRIAN HANDS. ALSO, AFTERNOON NEWS TODAY WAS INTERRUPTED BY AIR RAID SIRENS IN TEL AVIV AREA, THIS BEING FIRST TIME SINCE OCT 10; ALL CLEAR SOUNDED WITHIN FIVE MINUTES.

3. FINANCE MINISTER PINHAS SAPIR AND ACTING HEAD OF JUWISH AGENCY ARIE DULZIN DEPARTED YESTERDAY EVENING FOR US TO SUPERVISE FUND-RAISING DRIVE. AT LOD AIRPORT PRIOR TO DEPARTURE, SAPIR SAID THAT ISRAELIS HAD THUS FAR PURCHASED 300 MILLION ISRAELI POUNDS OF VOLUNTARY WAR BONDS. GOAL WAS SET AT ONE BILLION ISRAELI POUNDS IN VOLUNTARY BONDS WHICH WOULD MATCH FIGURE SET FOR COMPULSORY WAR BONDS. VARIOUS PUBLIC FIGURES, SUCH AS KNH SET MEMBERS, MEMBERS OF LABOR PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE, AND DIRECTORS GENERAL OF MINISTRIES HAVE ANNOUNCED THAT THEY ARE CONTRIBUTING ONE MONTH'S SALARY TO WAR EFFORT. EVEN ISRAELI ARABS ARE DESCRIBED AS PITCHING IN, WITH NAZARETH MAYOR SEIF AL-DIN AL-ZUABI HEADING A COMMITTEE TO RAISE FUNDS AMONG NAZARETH RESIDENTS.

4. ISRAELI SECURITY AUTHORITIES HAVE ADVISED US THAT SITUATION IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES REMAINS QUIET AND NO DIFFICULTIES ARE ANTICIPATED.

5. LOD AIRPORT REMAINS OPEN WITH OVER 3200 PASSENGERS SAID TO HAVE ARRIVED OR DEPARTED DURING PAST 24 HOURS. RADIO NEWS REPORTED THAT ISRAEL'S CITRUS SEASON IS UNDERWAY AND THAT A SHIP WITH 45,000 CRATES OF GRAPEFRUIT ABOARD DEPARTED FOR BRITAIN YESTERDAY.
KEATING

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